but medicines worth lacs of rupees are wasted because of the non-utilization before the expiry date;

(b) if so, what is the total amount of medicines purchased by NDMC during the last three years and what is the loss of the medicines that were declared unfit for consumption due to expiry of date; and

(c) what steps have been taken to reduce the purchases of medicines keeping in view the actual requirements during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) As per information received from N.D.M.C., the amount spent on purchase of medicines alongwith the cost of medicines declared unfit during the last three years is as follows:—

Year	Amount spent for medicine purchased	Medicine declared unfit
1989-90	Rs. 78,90,835·72	Rs. 29,869·65
1990-91	Rs. 89,29,641·75	Rs. 44,697·61
1991-92	Rs. 85,78,013·26	Rs. 74,753·70

As per the procedure followed by NDMC, an undertaking is obtained from the suppliers of medicines for replacement of such medicines as are expired before their use. The above medicines which were unfit were got replaced.

(c) In order to ensure that medicines are purchased according to the actual requirement, the amount of medicines utilised in the last two years is taken into account while making fresh purchase. There is also a sub-committee of medical officers which is presided over by Medical Officer (Health) which scrutinises the demands and take decisions about the new purchases after taking into account the consumption of last year.

Protests against transfer of Tin Bigha to Bangladesh

@1338. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received protest letters from some M.P.s against the transfer of Tin Bigha to Bangladesh;

(b) what are the major objections raised by M.P.s. against the transfer of Tin Bigha; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to assuage the feelings of the protestors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Village protection force in North-Eastern region

1339. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute "Village Protection Force" in the border areas of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Assam-Myanmar to check infiltrators of Bodo, ULFA, NSCN and KIA (Kachin Independent Army) into Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the above Force would be temporary or permanent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME

@Previously Unstarred Question 777, transferred from 16.7.92.